

EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes

December 6, 2005

The Edgefield County Council held its regular monthly meeting at 6:00 P. M. Tuesday, December 6, 2005, in the County Council Chambers located at 225 Jeter Street, Edgefield.

Members present:

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman
Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman
Nomran Dorn, Councilman
Joel D. Hudson, Councilman
B. Everette Kitchens, Councilman

Others present:

Wayne Adams, County Administrator
John F. Byrd, Jr., County Attorney
Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council

Chairman Kneece called the meeting to order and Councilman Hudson gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited after the invocation was given.

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The following minutes were approved by a motion made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Kitchens:

November 1, 2005, Regular Meeting of Council
November 9, 2005, Called Meeting of Council

Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Report Number 3 concerning a swap proposed by SCDOT to Edgefield County was postponed until January so a representative of the DOT could be present.

At this time Councilman Dorn brought before council the matter of a bridge located in the upper part of the county (namely, Jimmie Road) – why the bridge could not be fixed so the school bus could cross it to pick up a child residing there. At the present time the bus has to cross over into Saluda County and back to the residence. Several years ago council was told it would cost \$75,000 to get the bridge repaired. Mr. Gibson will take this request before the Transportation Committee.

Public Hearing

A public hearing was held to receive written and/or oral comments on Ordinance No. 05-06-575, “An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 00-11-387, As Previously Amended by

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Ordinance No. 00-01-409, Relating to the Industrial/Business Park of Aiken an Edgefield Counties So As to Enlarge the Park.”

There were no comments, written or oral, received.

Ordinances

Third reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-572 “ An Ordinance to Develop a Jointly Owned and Operated Industrial/Business Park in Conjunction with Aiken County, Such Industrial/Business Park to be Geographically Located in Edgefield County and the Town of Trenton and Established Pursuant to South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976 §4-1-170, ET Sequitur, as Amended: to Provide for a Written Agreement with Aiken County Providing for the Expenses of the Park, the Percentage of Revenue Application, and the Distribution of Fees in Lieu of *Ad Valorem* Taxes to the Counties and Relevant Taxing Entities; to Provide That Jobs Tax Credits Allowed by Law Be Provided for Businesses Locating in Said Park; to Permit User Fee in Lieu of *Ad Vlorem* Taxation Within Said Park; and Other Matters Related Thereto.”

Motion was made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Hudson, to approve third and final reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-572. Motion carried unanimously.

Third reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-575, “An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 00 11-387, As Previously Amended by Ordinance No. 00-01-409, Relating to the Industrial/Business Park of Aiken and Edgefield Counties So As to Enlarge the Park.”

Motion to approve third and final reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-575 was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Kitchens. Motion carried unanimously.

Third reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-573, “An Ordinance Authorizing a Fee-in-Lieu of Tax Arrangement on Behalf of Trenton Plastics, LLC (The“Company”) Pursuant to a Fee Agreement Between Edgefield County, South Carolina (The “County”) and The Company; and Other Matters Relating to the Foregoing.”

Motion to approve third and final reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-573 was made by Councilman Kitchens, seconded by Councilman Bright. Motion carried unanimously.

Second reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-574, “An Ordinance Amending §35.16 of the Edgefield County Code of Ordinances to Provide for the Composition, Terms, and Procedures of the County Board of Assessment Appeals.”

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The second reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-574 was approved by a motion made by Councilman Bright, seconded by Councilman Kitchens. The motion carried unanimously.

First reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-576, "An Ordinance to Direct that the Implementation of Real Property Reassessment in Edgefield County be Delayed for One Year, as Authorized by § 12-43-217 (B), South Carolina Code of Laws 1976, as Amended."

The first reading of Ordinance No. 05-06-576 was approved by a motion made by Councilman Dorn, seconded by Councilman Hudson. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions

Consideration of Resolution No. 05-06-287, "A Resolution Providing for the Transfer of Litter Control Responsibilities from the County Administrator to the Sheriff." (Both officials agreed to make this request of County Council.)

Councilman Hudson made the motion to approve Resolution No. 05-06-287. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dorn, which carried unanimously.

New Business

Audit

Ms. Laurie Smith, CPA with Elliott Davis, LLP, presented to council Edgefield County's annual external audit for fiscal year 2004-05. She gave a brief overview of the audit, stating that there is an unqualified opinion on the statements, which is a clean opinion on the financial statements as of June 30, 2005. Mrs. Smith informed council that this is the third year of implementation of the new reporting model for the county (pages three through nine-Management's Discussion and Analysis). These pages give you a summary of how finances stood at the end-of-the-year on assets, what the transactions looked like as far as revenues and expenses, what the changes were in capital assets and the debt structure.

In closing Mrs. Smith offered to meet with council to discuss the audit further should they have any questions. Council did ask to have the audits mailed to them at least two weeks prior to her attending the council meeting next year so the members could review and have a better understanding of it in advance.

Airport update

Johnny and Linda Anderson (Plane Fun) were present to update the council on the Edgefield County Airport and to let council know the plans for the airport for the coming year. Linda read the report that she gave to each councilman, which reflected on past and

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present ways the airport has been utilized, and the future plans for the airport.

Sheriff's Department requests

There were two items on the agenda that Sheriff Dobey asked to bring before council:

- (1) **Sale of surplus property**
- (2) **Use of confiscated gambling monies**

The first item (surplus property) stated the sheriff had three unmarked vehicles (cars) in his possession. His request was to trade one of the 1999 vehicles for a four-wheel pick-up (used vehicle) for general use throughout his department. It would not be an even trade but there is money in his budget to make up the difference.

Councilman Dorn made the motion to approve the sheriff's request to trade one of the 1999 vehicles for a four-wheel vehicle. The motion, a unanimous vote, was seconded by Councilman Kitchens.

The sheriff's second request (use confiscated gambling monies) was withdrawn prior to the meeting and will be taken before council's January meeting.

Planning Commission appointments

The two-year terms of the two at-large Planning Commission Board members, Mrs. Bernadette Hudson and Mr. Dick Harper, expired November 2005. Council received a request from the Planning Board to re-appoint the two individuals to another two-year term. Both agreed to serve. The re-appointments were approved by a motion made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Hudson requested of the administrator to ask the Planning Commission Chairman about member attendance. Mr. Hudson stated he had received several complaints concerning member participation. He would like this information at the January meeting.

Ashwood Drive

Council voted to accept Ashwood Drive into the county maintenance system in March of 2004 (formerly Spring Lake Drive). During the research for the sale of property on Ashwood, it was found that all of the deeds had not been accepted by council (this one had been overlooked in a file). Acceptance of this deed will officially put this road into the county maintenance system. Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Bright, to accept into the county maintenance system by deed of Kay Dukes, Ashwood Drive. Motion carried unanimously.

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Holiday schedule

Motion was made by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Chairman Kneece, to approve the holiday schedule for 2006. Motion carried unanimously. This schedule coincides with most of the holidays observed by the state, but does not add any holiday the county does not already observe.

Old Business

Appointments/Tax Appeals Board

Each council member brought a name before council for approval to serve on the Tax Assessments and Appeals Board. The Chairman and Vice Chairman were to submit two names each (two of these to serve at-large). The names submitted are as follows:

Henry Black	(Johnston)
Denny Clark	(Johnston)
Odell Glover	(Trenton)
Ralph McFarland	(Trenton)
J. R. Hooper	(Edgefield)
Jimmie Haywood	(North Augusta)
David Patton	(North Augusta)

Councilman Kitchens made the motion to accept these individuals to serve on the Tax Assessments and Appeals Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dorn, which carried unanimously. These are two-year terms and will be effective January 3, 2006.

Traffic light / Hwy. 25 and Bettis Academy

Ms. Sandra Curry addressed council concerning the issue of having a traffic light installed at the intersection of Highway 25 and Bettis Academy. The chairman stated a SC Department of Transportation representative was scheduled to be present at the meeting but due to an out-of-town meeting no one could attend. Also, Mr. Kneece spoke with Rep. Clyburn prior to the meeting and he also had another engagement and could not attend the council meeting.

Ms. Curry thanked the administrator for all that he had done on her behalf in this concern. She reiterated about accidents and deaths that had occurred at the intersection. She feels there should be someone of authority over Mr. Brooks and Mr. McLaughlin.

Consensus of council was to ask the delegation to attend the January council meeting along with representative (s) of SCDOT.

Mr. George Brightharp stated that the highway department added insult to injury on highway 25 after the death of Mr. Tillman and before the last wreck that Ms. Curry did not allude to that happened less than a month ago (terrible accident). When you are coming up the grade right in the front of Mt. Canaan Church, they moved the speed limit

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to 55 miles an hour less than a hundred feet from the Mt.Canaan turn. It is an enforcement thing. The 18 wheelers do not break their speed coming down through the grade (Whitlock Hill). It is getting worse than better and, sure, coming down off Bettis Academy Road, but the big thing is that the intersection needs to be totally evaluated from Whitlock Road down to at least into Mr. Bright's turn. That area should be under the 35 miles per hour speed limit.

No guests.

No executive session

Claims approved as follows:

(Payroll for October was omitted from the November 1st minutes. The minutes included the November payroll. October payroll is included in the December minutes for approval.)

A. Payroll: 9/26/05 thru 10/9/05

Regular.....\$186,876.61

Payroll: 10/10/05 thru 10/23/05

Regular.....\$184,890.56

B. General Operating.....\$770,386.00

There being no further business, Councilman Dorn made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Hudson. Motion carried. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 3, 2006.

C. Monroe Kneece, Chairman

ATTEST

Willie C. Bright, Vice Chairman

Barbara R. Stark, Clerk to Council

Norman Dorn, Councilman

Joel D. Hudson, Councilman

B. Everette Kitchens, Council

